



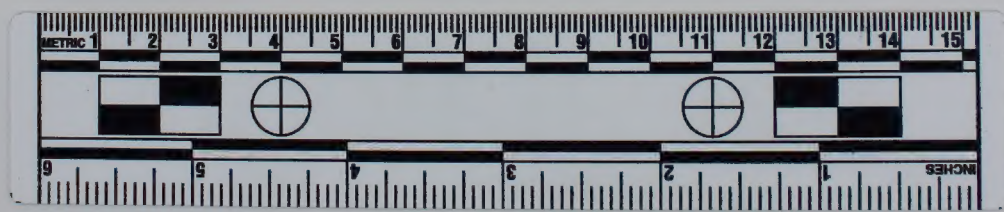
ans June 26



Mrs. Edith Grandy
Arcadia

Bx 94

Cal.





WHOLESALE

RETAIL

M. A. Smith

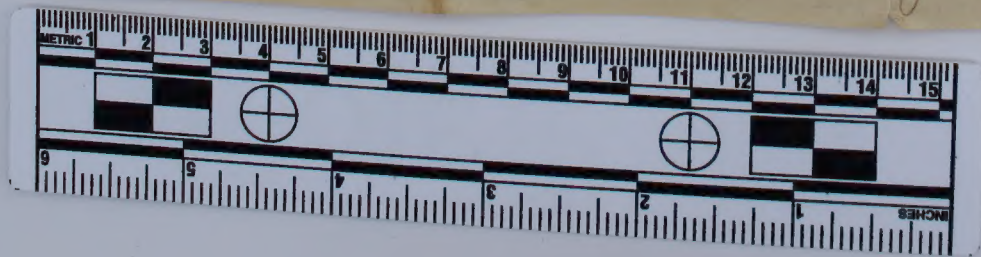
REGISTERED PLUMBER

ESTIMATES FURNISHED
ALL WORK GUARANTEEDSANITARY PLUMBING IN
ALL ITS BRANCHES

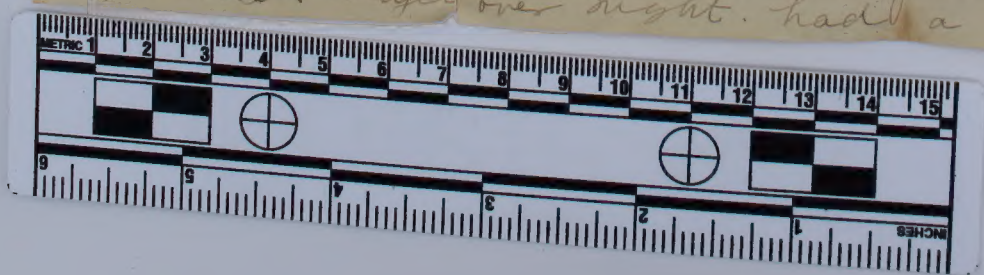
Atascadero, California April 20 1916

"Dear Grandie - The whole dam family"

Well old pal I guess you think I am the limit, and I guess I am. It seems I don't have time to write. Although I think about you folks every day & say I must write to you - but you know how that goes. "But I am on the job now" so here she goes. To begin with. The colony is on the fence, don't know which side to drop on, & neither do we. Everything is at a standstill. nothing doing, no body in the store or on the streets. no one has any money (to go to the store with. I really don't know what will become of all these old maids & "widies" here. & lots of others are in want, down to their last bean. It is to bad. I feel sorry for some of these old people here. There wouldn't be many left here. If they could all sell, that wants to. We have been out fortunate. Billie is working most of the time. He has the big jobs on hand now. & is figuring Mrs Thompsons house (Sister Schibers mother). They have a garage up near Baldersons. There has been lots of houses gone up since you left. Storg. has built a good many out the North highway & is building his own out there. He has a ford now. But he don't get any money out the Co. any faster than he was to. Mrs. Browns house is finished & up for sale. She is frantic to get out of here & so is he. They are crazy to go to Los Angeles. Can you find them a buyer? She has no use for this place - none had. Some of our high priced office men. had the pink slip handed to them. Mr. Taylor. Almesath. Synard. Comy & Silkenman. and there are a whole lot more that ought to get it. There



poor old here here. have been helping to pay their salary.
I don't think I ever saw such a bunch of nuts in
my life as there is gathered here. Half or more
of these people will lose their homes. They can't make
any money here to make their payments with. I'll bet
you are glad that you didn't build here last summer.
The Balderson, Milan Co. contractors. are building a brick
house for Miss Moore next to Dorn's on the high way. Cholly
is very much infatuated with one of the Nicholson girls. I
have been going with her a long time. He has bought
himself a new ^{new} spring outfit. in clothes. & furnished his
own room but Mrs. M. C. Couloughs. He but he is
the candy kid. I told Mrs. Balderson what I thought
of him. & that he better pay us & other girls before
staying himself up. So she "telegraphed" the news
to him. so now he is in love with me. nit. and
Balderson just acts like a child. lets Chas. do all
the bossing & bip. & he ^{he} don't go ahead to do anything
another (nut) Billie is doing their plumbing. Balderson's brother
& his wife & boy are here from Los Angeles. he is a
plumber. but he is planning for the colony. Yes Mr.
Hunter is still in the store. They live in Petersens
house. they have not built yet. I work in the store
at odd times & on sale days. I have been working in
the office too. expect to start again soon.
Well Mrs. B. & I went to Grandmother England funeral
yesterday. Mrs. Johnson took her over to her house this
past winter to take care of her. she has been an
invalid all winter. Mrs. Johnson's oldest daughter is
home. Johnsons were my best friends. we visit all
the time. Mel Roberts went down to Los. a couple
of weeks ago & got a second auto. & drove back up.
they moved across the river last week. camping
with Mrs. Evening. across the bridge to the right.
no one on our camp ground. The other campers
camped all winter. Van Doren & Crooks went
to Arizona. Billie & I took a trip to San Luis Obispo
last Sat & stayed over night. had a good time



WHOLESALE

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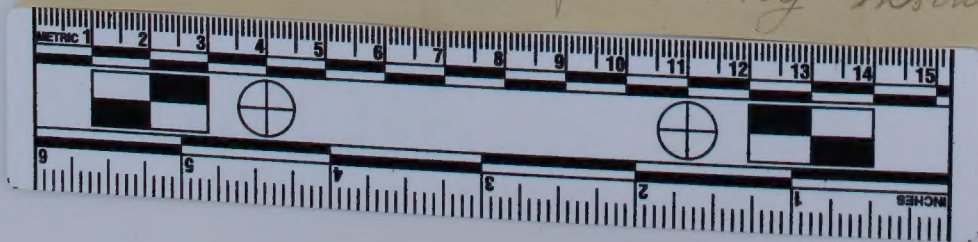
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Atascadero, California

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My old friend Mrs. Eaton is still here. They are trying
very hard to sell + get away. Mrs. Moore is sick in bed.
Has been for two weeks. The assembly tent was blown
down last winter. They have church in the school house.
All work on the Administration bldg. has been shut down
for months. don't know when they will ever start. By
the way Granlie will you send me the films of those
pictures we took up to Johnsons + J.B. + I in the
river. We would like to print some. + you said
you would send me a pictures of the girls. but
your memory is failing you. I think. Well I must
tell you I must lose. Poor little Laurabelle was struck by an
auto + killed. Billie + I am just sick over it. She was
so big + pretty. smart as a cricket. I have her hair
+ tanned it. I miss her terrible. How are all the
girls + Bess + Cate. Helen you wrote me a very nice
little letter. This letter will have to do for you
too. Glad you girls had such a nice X'mas + got so
many nice presents. You were quite lucky to sell all
the pups. No Grapian didn't tarry long after Daddy
left. He took a trip up to the Fair. he isn't doing
anything now. says if he had money enough he
would go to Los A. How is Daddy + is he working?
I hope so. They say that things are picking up
down there. We have been thinking that if things
fell thro' here we would take a trip down there.
Write + let us know what you think. I would love
to see you all to day + have a big chew. The
way. We had terrible hot weather in March.
The wind has been blowing again for 3 days.
+ we have a white frost every morning. It has.



nipped lots of garden + fruit. The river has just a
little water in it now. We certainly had fun in it.
last summer. playing follow the leader. We never
been nothing of Orens. Barkers are crazy to sell
+ get away too. They are our neighbors. Harris + Carter
dissolved partnership. Carter left here. We have fine
times playing + singing. Mr. Barker + I both play the
violin + Mrs. Brown the piano. so we have lots of
fun. Are the girls taking lessons now. Ask Daddy
how he would like to have a piece of corn
bread? He had great times cooking over there.
Our old Jay came again now 3 times a week. I
was so glad when the butcher starts. Every thing
has gone up here something frightful. Well next
Sunday is Easter. I wish we were where we could
go to some nice big church. where they had
a fine choir. + a good speaker. Chas. Brazil said Mr.
Balderson told him to buy them dishes. I suppose
your flower garden is beautiful now. There are lots
of wild flowers here. I'll bet you were all glad to
be home again + in a comfortable house. I am
sick of this life. I will be tickled to death to
live in a real house again. I have some new
middy suits. The hills are begining to get burned + brown
already. Well I hope we will be able to take our
trip down there + see you all some of those days.
Have you got a cow now? Mrs. Brown sends her
regards + hopes to see you down there someday.
Well girls I have no hair dresser here. I certainly
do miss you all. Jim Grandie old kid you will
forgive me now. after writing this young rascal
won't you? + be sure that you don't forget to
answer this. Billie sends best wishes to you all.
Well I must close + get dinner. with best
wishes + love to all.

Regards to Daddy. Your old pal
Smithie.

